

Cultural Safety Definition

Gerlach, A. J. (2012). A critical reflection on the concept of cultural safety. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 79(3), 151–158

“A commonly cited contemporary definition of cultural safety comes from the Nursing Council of New Zealand (2005).

Cultural safety is the effective nursing/midwifery practice of a person or family from another culture, and is determined by that person or family. Culture includes, but is not restricted to, age or generation; gender; sexual orientation; occupation and socioeconomic status; ethnic origin or migrant experience; religious or spiritual belief; and disability. The nurse/midwife delivering the nursing/midwifery service will have undertaken a process of reflection on his/her cultural identity and will recognize the impact that his/her personal culture has on his/her professional practice. Unsafe cultural practice comprises any action which diminishes, demeans or disempowers the cultural identity and wellbeing of an individual (p. 7).”

(Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2005). *Guidelines for cultural safety, the Treaty of Waitangi, and Maori health in nursing and midwifery education and practice*. Wellington, NZ: Author.)

Cultural safety resources

Cultural safety training: working better in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
<http://culturalsafetytraining.com.au/>

SARRAH (Services for Australian and Rural and Remote Allied Health): Education and training for rural and remote allied health professionals
<http://www.sarrahtraining.com.au/site/index.cfm?display=143690>
Includes a link to an online training module and further resources

Articles:

Stedman, A. & Thomas, Y. (2011). Reflecting on our effectiveness: Occupational therapy interventions with Indigenous clients. *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 58, 43–49. Doi: 10.1111/j.1440-1630.2010.00916.x

Nguyen, H. (2008). Patient centred care: Cultural safety in indigenous health
Australian Family Physician, 37(12), 990–994.

Nelson, A. (2007). Seeing white: a critical exploration of occupational therapy with Indigenous Australian people. *Occupational Therapy International*, 14(4), 237–255.

Jungersten, K. (2002). Cultural safety: Kawa Whakaruruhau – an occupational therapy perspective. *New Zealand Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 49(1), 4–9.